

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

EB-07 IO-10 DOTE-00 /077 W

----- 125615

R 241528Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3865

USMISSION USBERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17460

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, US, UK, FR, UR, WB

SUBJECT: DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN BASC

REF: A. BONN 17097 B. STATE 241318 C. STATE 235439

1. AT OCTOBER 21 CAA MEETING BRITISH CAA GROVE CIRCULATED TWO UK AIDE MEMOIRES SETTING FORTH THE POINTS CITED IN PARA 1 REF B. WHEN DELIVERING THE AIDE MEMOIRES AT THE QUAI, UK EMBASSY REP EXPRESSED ORALLY HMG'S CONCERN THAT THE ACTUAL TRANSFER OF CONTROL BE TIMED SO AS TO MINIMIZE ANY POSSIBLE ADVERSE SOVIET RESPONSE. GROVES SUGGESTED THAT A LETTER FROM THE CAA'S BE DRAFTED TASKING THE WORKING GROUP OF THE BERLIN AIR COORDINATING COMMITTEE (BACC) WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SCENARIO FOR THE TRANSFER.

2. LASSUS SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A FULL REPORT ON THE BRITISH POSITION FROM PARIS AND COULD AGREE TO GROVES' PROPOSAL TO REFER QUESTION FOR BACC WORKING GROUP STUDY.

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HE NOTED BRITISH CONCERNS REGARDING TIMING BUT MADE NO

SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT. FOR THE RECORD PROCEDURAL MATTER BOTH LASSUS AND GROVES ASKED IF EMB CAA PREPARED TO CONCUR IN TRANSFER AND REFERRAL TO WORKING GROUP. EMB CAA SAID THAT BRITISH PROPOSAL ON TRANSFER AND METHOD OF WORKING OUT MODALITIES WAS ACCEPTABLE BUT URGED THAT CAA'S LETTER ALSO REQUEST IMMEDIATE INITIATION OF ACTION TO INSTALL DIRECT LAND LINES BETWEEN TEGAL TOWER AND ALL BASC ELEMENTS. ALTHOUGH QUESTION OF TIMING FOR CORRIDOR TRANSFER MIGHT REQUIRE FURTHER EXAMINATION, U.S. BELIEVED INSTALLATION OF NEW PHONE LINES SHOULD PROCEED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. LASSUS READILY AGREED CONFIDING THAT THE FRENCH HAD INTENDED TO CONCUR IN THE NEW PHONES THE NEXT TIME THE QUESTION WAS RAISED IN THE BASC.

3. CAA'S ACCORDINGLY AGREED THE TEXT FOR IDENTICAL LETTERS (DATED OCTOBER 21) TO RESPECTIVE WORKING GROUP DELEGATION CHIEFS COVERING BOTH CORRIDOR TRANSFER AND PHONE LINES. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT AS CONCERNED AS THE BRITISH APPEAR TO BE REGARDING SENSITIVITY TO SOVIETS OF CORRIDOR TRANSFER; HOWEVER, BACC POLITICAL ADVISORS MAY WISH TO AGREE IN ADVANCE ON A CONTINGENCY RESPONSE FOR USE SHOULD SOVIETS QUESTION ALLIED ACTION.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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